

The Training Site

The Birmingham VA Medical Center is a progressive teaching facility accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and affiliated with the UAB School of Medicine, Samford University McWhorter School of Pharmacy, and Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy. It serves as a referral center for Alabama and surrounding states to provide acute tertiary medical and surgical care, as well as numerous medical specialties, including the Safe Harbor Palliative Care Inpatient unit, Neurology, Psychiatry, Geriatrics, and Home Based Primary Care. The extensive ambulatory care program covers over 50 general and specialty clinics, including pharmacist-run clinics. The pharmacy department is staffed by over 70 professionals to provide unit dose medications, IV admixtures, TPN, chemotherapy, and comprehensive clinical pharmacy services to both inpatients and over 55,000 outpatients who are currently enrolled in Primary Care at the Birmingham VA Medical Center.

Residency Training Program

The pharmacy practice residency at the Birmingham VA Medical Center offers comprehensive training with an emphasis on clinical pharmaceutical care and primary care. Pharmacy residents will be directly involved in patient care, as well as pharmacy operations. Residents will also have ongoing teaching responsibilities to pharmacy students and hospital staff. Pharmacy residents advance their knowledge and skills to become competent clinical practitioners through training in the following rotations:

Required Rotations

- **Orientation** (required one month)
- **Acute Patient Care**
 - General Medicine (required two months)
 - Critical Care/Medicine Specialty (required two months) MICU/CCU and SICU/CVICU
- **Ambulatory Patient Care**
 - Primary Care (two months) with a focus on DM, HTN & lipids
 - Anticoagulation (Longitudinal)
- **Drug Information/Formulary Management** (required one month and longitudinal)
- **Practice Management**
- **Service Commitment** (requires one Saturday per month)
- **Electives** (Three one month rotations)
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Palliative Care
 - Psychiatry
 - Neurology
 - Repeats of acute care or primary care rotation
 - Cardiology
 - Geriatrics
 - Long term care
 - Nutrition

In addition, several ongoing activities throughout the year require resident participation and responsibilities to contribute toward resident development. These include:

- Research project
 - Background preparation, protocol, design, data collection and analysis
 - Presentation at Southeastern Residency Conference (SERC)
 - Manuscript submission to a professional journal
- Journal Club - participation and/or presentation monthly
- Adverse Drug Event reporting and pharmacist consultations
- Assigned management projects or tasks
- Teaching opportunities
- Drug monographs
- Case Presentations



Birmingham City Life

While the greater Birmingham area boasts a population of over one million people, the feel of Southern hospitality and charm abounds. World-famous dining, local boutiques, and plentiful shopping are found close to downtown Birmingham, and the downtown area itself is rich with civil landmarks, historic churches, and beautiful parks. Birmingham houses multiple attractions for lovers of arts and science, including the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the Alabama Ballet, the McWane Science Center, the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, and the Birmingham Zoo. Nestled in the heart of Alabama football, the sunny climate allows for outdoor enjoyment not only throughout football season, but also year-round. In addition, a convenient drive to both beaches and mountains, affordable housing close to the VA, and ethnic diversity all make Birmingham a great city in which to live.



Benefits

- Salary: \$ 38,275 + pharmacist salary for staffing hours
- Health/Life Insurance
- Administrative leave with paid registration and travel to attend the following meetings:
 - ASHP Midyear clinical meeting
 - Southeastern Residency Conference (SERC)
- Thirteen (13) days annual leave
- Thirteen (13) days sick leave
- Ten (10) paid federal holidays

Application Procedure

Applicants must possess a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from an accredited school or college of pharmacy, or a B.S. or M.S. degree and equivalent training or experience. They must also be eligible for license to practice pharmacy in any state, be a U.S. citizen, and have completed a professional curriculum that includes significant clinical clerkship experience. The application process requires VA application form, curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, pharmacy school transcripts, letter of intent and an essay indicating career goals and objectives for seeking a residency. Interviews will be scheduled based on evaluation of the written application. Residents will be ranked for selection based on qualifications and a personal interview. Two positions are available beginning no later than July 1. Address all inquiries and application materials to:

Katherine Guillen, Pharm.D.
Residency Program Director (119)
Birmingham VA Medical Center
700 South 19th Street Birmingham, AL 35233

Email: katherine.guillen@va.gov
Phone: 205-933-8101 ext. 6854
Fax: 205-558-4784

Application Deadline is January 15th.

